



# *The Leaflet Drop*

The Periodic Newsletter of the PSYOP Veterans  
Association  
(POVA)

[www.usapova.com](http://www.usapova.com)

1 July 2016

## **President's Letter**

Dear POVA Members and Friends,

I'm pleased to report that interest and commitments are coming together for our August reunion. We presently have nearly 40 commitments from members, friends, and families to join us in Fayetteville. A strong turnout will ensure a great reunion for all involved.

Don't forget to visit our POVA Reunion website at [www.povareunion2016.org](http://www.povareunion2016.org) to buy your BBQ & dinner tickets, purchase your POVA-branded pullover shirts, ball cap, and beautiful original Challenge Coin. All proceeds from purchase of our products go to support our reunion and our growing ability to provide financial support to charitable veteran causes.

POVA has had success soliciting nominations and volunteers for our elective offices; the current list is included later in this newsletter. Remember that POVA membership is required to hold office.

Please also note that our newsletter will now include a section that includes comments, thoughts, ideas, complaints, etc., from our members regarding both POVA and our newsletter. Have something to say? Want to compliment a member publicly? Here is a place to do it.

If you have any questions about the reunion, contact Rich Hosier ([hosierich@yahoo.com](mailto:hosierich@yahoo.com)) or Chad Spawr ([spawrtan@wideopenwest.com](mailto:spawrtan@wideopenwest.com)), and they'll help you.

Looking forward to seeing you all in August.

Sincerely,

Mike Stoeckert  
President

## **Financial Report**

Under the capable leadership of VP Rich Hosier, POVA is gradually and wisely growing our ability to cover our expenses as we take the organization forward. Under Rich's leadership, the August reunion is coming together, we have some awesome POVA-branded shirts and caps to sell to raise funds, and we now have a stunning Challenge Coin to share with our friends and supporters. Here is Rich's financial summary through June '16:

<b>Categories</b>	<b>YTD</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>4683.83</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>3906.85</b>
<b>Month End Account Total</b>	<b>776.98</b>

**The Fallen Soldier’s Cross**

Virtually all of us who have served know of the Soldier’s Cross, and most have participated in a ceremony in the presence of this monument to our lost comrades. However, it is also true that many people don’t know the history of this solemn recognition.

The **Fallen Soldier Battle Cross, Battlefield Cross** or **Battle Cross** is a symbolic replacement of a cross, or marker appropriate to an individual service-member's religion, on the battlefield or at the base camp for a soldier who has been killed. It is made up of the soldier's rifle stuck into the ground or into the soldier's boots, with helmet on top. Dog tags are sometimes placed on the rifle, and the boots of the dead soldier can be placed next to the rifle. The purpose is to show honor and respect for the dead at the battle site. The practice started during the American Civil War or maybe earlier as a means of identifying the bodies on the battleground before they were removed.



Today’s cross is a significant means of showing respect for the dead among the still living members of the troop. It might be seen in the field or base camp after the battle in Afghanistan or Iraq. It is used less today as a means to identify the dead but more as a private ceremony among those still living as a means to mourn, as attending the funeral is not always possible for soldiers still in the fight.

During POVA’s reunion banquet in Fayetteville on 13 August 2016, we will honor our PSYOP brethren lost in line of duty with a Rose Ceremony and a Soldier’s Cross bearing a dog tag for each lost PSYOP soldier. Please join us in honoring our lost fellow soldiers.

**Update on Nominations for POVA Elective Office: the 2016-18 Term**

Our call for nominations has generated additional nominees, and all but one position has at least one person who has either volunteered or been nominated. We still seek nominees for the Newsletter Editor position. C’mon friends, somebody step up.

POVA has grown resurgent over the past year, and with a new focus on both Chapters and a philanthropic capability, we are doing good work for our fellow Psywarriors, veterans, and families. Please consider taking a position to help POVA help our fellow veterans and friends.

<b>POVA Position</b>	<b>Nominees (to date)</b>
President	Chad Spawr
First Vice President	Stu Clark
Vice President & Chaplain	John Cheney
Vice President, Finance & Member Development	Rich Hosier
Vice President, Association Relations	Curt Boyd

Vice President and Web Master	Rick Hofmann
Newsletter Editor(1)	
Trustees (6)	Mike Stoeckert Doug Elwell Carrie Spivey-Vernon Larry Dietz Howard "Pat" Patrick Matt Robbins

Please submit your nomination(s) by email to Chad Spawr at [spawrtan@wideopenwest.com](mailto:spawrtan@wideopenwest.com). We will report progress in receiving nominations in newsletters through the August issue.

### **Update on the Reunion**

Dates: Thursday through Sunday, 11-14 August 2016

Location: Fayetteville, NC

Hotel Reservations at 2 Host Hotels by Hilton are now available:

Double Tree by Hilton  
1965 Cedar Creek Road  
Fayetteville, NC  
(910) 323-8282  
Rate- \$98 per night

Hampton Inn I-95  
1922 Cedar Creek Road  
Fayetteville, NC  
(910) 323-0011  
Rate - \$72 per night

**Reservation Group Code: PXM**

**POVA**

When you call the hotel of your choice, be sure to tell them the code (above) for the hotel you are calling so you can take advantage of the preferred rate.

### **Reunion Banquet Meal Selections**

Rich Hosier, POVA's VP of Finance & Member Development has worked with our host hotel for the Reunion banquet and has created a set of menu selections for dinner. To assure your choices for dinner, please reply directly to Rich ([hosierrich@yahoo.com](mailto:hosierrich@yahoo.com)) with your selections. If you are attending with another person, please identify that person's choices as well so we can assure all preferences are met.

Here is the set of alternatives; please make your selections not later than 15 July:

- 1.) Grilled Salmon with Lemon Caper Beurre Blanc***
- 2.) Roasted Chicken with choice of White Sauce or Mushroom Sauce***
- 3.) Marinated Flat Iron Steak with Mushroom Demi Glaze***

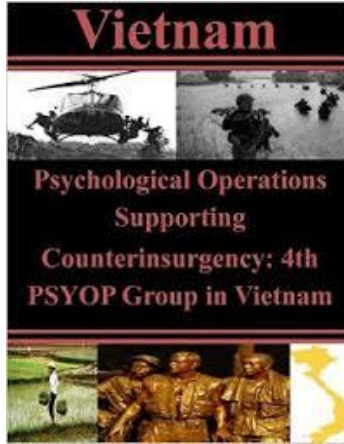
The sides have already been chosen: garden salad, garlic potatoes, veg. medley and desert (to be determined).

### **Scholarly Treatment of 4<sup>th</sup> PSYOP Group Support of Counterinsurgency**

In 2007, POVA member Mike Barger, COL, CO of the 2d PSYOP Group (A), wrote an excellent treatment of the role of the 4<sup>th</sup> PSYOP Group in Viet-Nam in support of ongoing counterinsurgency operations. Mike's writing came as a component of his academic work at the US Army's Command and General Staff School.

Your editor has read this book in Kindle book form, and to say that it hit "close to home" is an understatement. I strongly encourage all PSYOP veterans with an interest in the "starting point" history of the 4<sup>th</sup> PSYOP Group to read this book.

This is a well-written and thoroughly researched treatise on the operations of the 4<sup>th</sup> POG as it grew from a PSYOP detachment to a battalion to a full operational group with personnel deployed in support of both American and Viet-Nameese tactical units around South Viet-Nam. Mike's book is available in both print and Kindle electronic versions on Amazon.com. Here is the summary from the Amazon posting:



*"Military and civilian agencies conducted Psychological Operations on an unprecedented scale during the Vietnam War. Emphasis on PSYOP from MACV and the U.S. Mission resulted in the creation of an interagency organization providing direction to the overall PSYOP effort. The military PSYOP force supporting MACV underwent a series of organizational changes over seven years as the force struggled to meet ever-increasing demands, but never reached their full potential in Vietnam. Difficulties in measuring effectiveness combined with a lack of understanding of PSYOP techniques and capabilities more often than not resulted in the relegation of PSYOP to supporting "sideshow" status rather than the full integration into supported unit planning necessary for success. However, the evolution of the PSYOP force and reports from participants provide numerous lessons learned applicable to current operations under the aegis of the Global war on Terrorism."*

### **Profile of a Very Special POVA Life Member**

This month, we introduce Ray Ambrozak, a long-standing member of POVA, and one of the earliest PSYOP soldiers in the wars in Southeast Asia. Ray's long career in the military and his commitment to POVA and our fellow veterans is the mark of a true friend and brother.

MAJ-Ret. Ray Ambrozak has been a 6<sup>th</sup> Battalion alumnus since the 1960's when he served as the Battalion S3 in Viet-Nam. A career officer and Life Member of the PSYOP Veterans Association, Ray recently participated in the Battalion's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration.

Commissioned as an Infantry Officer, Ray's career included over ten years of PSYOP experience at the unit and theater levels, and he both planned and executed operations with foreign counterparts and every US governmental agency operating overseas. He also spent several years as an instructor teaching unit and staff officers the theory and practice of military PSYOP. Ray's PSYOP assignments included:



***Ray Ambrozak in Viet-Nam 1964***

- 1<sup>st</sup> Radio Broadcast and Leaflet Battalion at Ft. Bragg from 1959 to 1962, where he served as the Unit PSYOP Officer. Significantly in this assignment, Ray was deployed in support of US Special Forces in Southeast Asia. He was directly responsible for designing and implementing a retraining program for Prisoners of War.
- From 1962 to 1965, Ray was assigned to the USA Broadcast and Visual Pacific, where he served as PSYOP Staff Officer to the Joint Unconventional Warfare Task Force, and trained and assisted Chinese military personnel on Taiwan engaged in PSYOP directed at Communist China. In 1964, he deployed to Viet-Nam as a part of a PSYOP Detachment assigned to MACVSOG to establish a radio station broadcasting to North Viet-Nam.

- From 1966 to 1967, Ray served as Operations Officer for the 6<sup>th</sup> PSYOP Battalion which had been deployed to Viet-Nam, where he coordinated delivery of all military PSYOP to US forces in Viet-Nam. He was directly involved in the redesignation of the 6<sup>th</sup> PSYOP Battalion to become the 4<sup>th</sup> Psychological Operations Group in 1967.
- From 1967 to 1970, he served as a PSYOP Instructor at Ft. Bragg's Special Warfare School, where he taught PSYOP subjects in every course offered to officer and enlisted students. He also oversaw development and operation of the first PSYOP unit officer course and a course for PSYOP staff officers.



**CPT Ray Ambrozak**  
**S3 6<sup>th</sup> PSYOP Bn, Vietnam**

In 1970, Ray returned to Viet-Nam, where he served as a District Senior Advisor with the Military Assistance Command Viet-Nam (MACV), where he implemented relocation and pacification programs, while also training and developing Viet-Namese irregular defense forces in his district.

Ray's military awards and decorations include the Silver Star for heroism, Bronze Star (2 awards), the Army Commendation Medal, Combat Infantryman's Badge (CIB), Aircraft Crewman Badge, Parachutist Badge, Viet-Nam Cross of Gallantry with Bronze Star, Viet-Nam Cross of Gallantry with Palm device, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Viet-Nam Service Medal, Viet-Nam Campaign Medal, 2 awards of the Meritorious Unit Commendation, Republic of Viet-Nam Civil Action Honor Medal 1<sup>st</sup> Class.

Ray retired from the Army in 1978, and worked in civilian assignments at Ft. Hood, TX for 11 years.

### **Time to Fess Up.....Seriously? UFO's?**

Rumors have abounded for decades about the "secret" world that many special operators, including PSYOP soldiers both at home and abroad are somehow involved in here in the US and around the world. If you notice on the magazine cover below, there appears an article which apparently makes yet another linkage between our PSYOP profession and the murky world of UFO's and aliens.

At this point it is only a cover; haven't actually seen the article, but if any of our fellow PSYOP vets and soldiers have been secretly involved with alien invaders, or are perhaps alien invaders themselves, let us know and we'll do an exclusive interview. OK, this is sorta tongue-in-cheek, but the cover was a real surprise.

You may not be surprised to learn that this magazine has been out of publication for several years. Big surprise, right?



### **Alfred Paddock, COL-Ret., POVA Life Member**

Al Paddock has been a major intellectual and operational force in the world of modern PSYOP, and POVA is proud that he has been a strong supporter and Life Member for many years. His dedicated efforts and commitment resulted in the Army's USASOC HQ at Ft. Bragg being named in honor of Major General Robert A. McClure, considered by many to be the father of modern Special Operations and PSYOP.

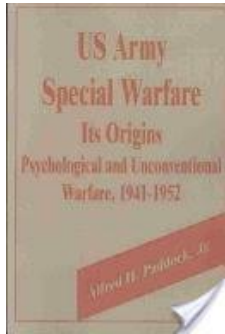
Dr. Alfred H. Paddock, Jr., the first Honorary Colonel of the PSYOP Regiment from 1998 – 2002, was born February 11, 1937, in Moscow, Idaho, and raised in Bogalusa, Louisiana. He holds a BA degree in political science from Park College, and MA and Ph.D. degrees in history from Duke University.

Dr. Paddock completed a 31-year U.S. Army career as a colonel in October, 1988. He is a graduate of the U.S. Army Special Forces Qualification Officer's Course, U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, and the U.S. Army War College. His military career included command and staff assignments in Korea, Okinawa, Laos, Vietnam, and the United States.



**Alfred H. Paddock, Jr.**  
**COL-USA, Ret**  
**POVA Life Member**

During the 1960s he served with 1st Special Forces Group (Airborne) and 5th Special Forces Group (Airborne), completing three combat tours in Laos and Vietnam. During the 1970s he was an instructor in strategic studies, U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas; served in the Politico-Military Division, Department of the Army Staff, Washington, DC; commanded the 6th Psychological Operations Battalion, Fort Bragg, NC; and served both as a faculty instructor for the Department of National and International Security Studies, and as a Strategic Research Analyst for the Strategic Studies Institute, U.S. Army War College.



During the 1980s he commanded the 4th Psychological Operations Group, Fort Bragg; was the Chairman, Department of National and International Security Studies, U.S. Army War College; was the military member, Secretary's Policy Planning Staff, Department of State; and was the first Director for Psychological Operations, Office of the Secretary of Defense, in over 30 years. From 1989 to 1992 he was Director, Atlanta office, of Litigation Sciences, Inc., the largest behavioral trial consulting firm in the U.S.

Dr. Paddock is the author of U.S. Army Special Warfare: Its Origins (Revised Edition), published in May 2002 by the University Press of Kansas, as well as numerous articles and book chapters on special operations topics.

Among his decorations are the Bronze Star Medal for Valor, the Defense Superior Service Medal, six awards of the Meritorious Service Award, the Bronze Star Medal for Meritorious Service, the Air Force Commendation Award, four awards of the Air Medal, the Combat Infantryman's Badge, and the Expert Infantryman's Badge. He is a member of the Infantry Officer Candidate School Hall of Fame and a recipient of the Psychological Operations Association's General Richard G. Stilwell Award. He also served as president of the Washington, DC chapter of the Special Forces Association from 2004 - 2006.

Dr. Paddock is married to the former Theresa D. Jenkins of Bogalusa, Louisiana. He currently works as an independent writer specializing in the history of U.S. special operations.

### **Sound Off Section**

Have questions, comments, complaints, or suggestions for your Association and/or its members? Please feel free to send any such commo to Chad Spawr, and the newsletter following receipt will include your note/comment. If you ask specific questions, we'll reply directly to you as appropriate, but will also include the answer with your question. If there is a question, we cannot answer, we'll tell you that. Let's try it and see how it goes, OK?

## POVA's Life Members

Many thanks to each and every Life Member for your invaluable support, guidance, and brotherhood over the years.

David Schultz  
David Albanese  
David Affleck \*  
John Henry "Jack" O'Neil \*  
Alfred Paddock  
John Cheney  
Arlo Despain  
William Forgey  
Eric Hersh  
Rick Hofmann

Stanley Michelsen  
James Osborne  
Chad Spawr  
Dennis Smiser  
Rich Hosier  
Curtis Boyd  
Carrie Spivey-Vernon  
Lawrence Dietz  
Mike Stoeckert  
Ray Ambrozak

Roxanne M. Merritt  
Norton "Tony" Newcomb  
Miguel Hobbs  
Ferdinand Irizarry II  
Joseph Meissner  
Floyd Turnquist  
Steven N. Collins  
Richard Caplin  
Matthew F. Robbins  
J. David Missavage

\*Deceased Life Member

## **\*\*IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS / E-MAIL ADDRESSES\*\***

<b>PRESIDENT</b>	MIKE STOECKERT	<a href="mailto:hookeye1@optonline.net">hookeye1@optonline.net</a>	631-868-3068
<b>VICE PRESIDENT/ CHAPLAIN</b>	JOHN CHENEY	<a href="mailto:hqcmdt@hotmail.com">hqcmdt@hotmail.com</a>	214-929-6603
<b>VICE PRESIDENT CORPORATE RELATIONS</b>	CURT BOYD	<a href="mailto:Curtis.boyd@jhuapl.edu">Curtis.boyd@jhuapl.edu</a>	
<b>VICE PRESIDENT FINANCE &amp; MEMBER DEVELOPMENT</b>	RICH HOSIER	<a href="mailto:hosierrich@yahoo.com">hosierrich@yahoo.com</a>	
<b>FIRST VICE PRESIDENT &amp; NEWSLETTER EDITOR</b>	CHAD SPAWR	<a href="mailto:spawrtan@wideopenwest.com">spawrtan@wideopenwest.com</a>	248-495-5974
<b>POVA WEBMASTER</b>	RICK HOFMANN	<a href="mailto:rick.hofmann@usapova.com">rick.hofmann@usapova.com</a>	
<b>TRUSTEES</b>	DICK HOLZHEIMER PAUL WOLFGEHER ALAN BYRNE	<a href="mailto:rholz@yahoo.com">rholz@yahoo.com</a> <a href="mailto:paw1924@swbell.net">paw1924@swbell.net</a> <a href="mailto:albyrne@aol.com">albyrne@aol.com</a>	813-391-2975  (386) 672-3277
<b>LIAISON OFFICER</b>	DOUG ELWELL	<a href="mailto:elwells@embarqmail.com">elwells@embarqmail.com</a>	910-488-1383
<b>Ed Rouse's PSYOP Website</b>		<a href="http://www.psywarrior.com">http://www.psywarrior.com</a>	
<b>POVA's WEBSITE</b>		<a href="http://www.usapova.com">http://www.usapova.com</a>	
<b>PSYOP Regimental Association Website</b>		<a href="http://www.psyopra.com">http://www.psyopra.com</a>	
<b>COL-Ret. Larry Dietz PSYOP Blog</b>		<a href="http://www.psyopregiment.blogspot.com">www.psyopregiment.blogspot.com</a>	

**In Closing** If you have a correction to previous information, or something you'd like to add to a future newsletter, send it to Chad at the email address listed below.

***In Brotherhood,***

***Chad Spawr***  
***First Vice President & Interim Editor***  
[spawrtan@wideopenwest.com](mailto:spawrtan@wideopenwest.com)